

Superior Charter Township Park Commission
Regular Meeting
February 28, 2022

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Nahid Sanii-Yahyai at 6:30 pm.

2. Roll Call

Park Commissioners present: Nahid Sanii-Yahyai, Terry Lee Lansing, Riley Schofield, Guy Conti, Greg Vessels, Martha Kern-Boprie

Park Commissioners absent: Marion Morris

Others present: Trustee Rhonda McGill; Juan Bradford, Park Administrator; Patrick Pigott, Maintenance Supervisor & Recreation Coordinator

3. Flag Salute

Vice-Chair Nahid Sanii-Yahyai led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4. Agenda Approval

It was moved by Guy Conti and supported by Riley Schofield to approve the agenda as drafted. The motion carried.

5. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval

A. January 24, 2022

It was moved by Riley Schofield and supported by Guy Conti to approve the minutes of 1/24/22 as drafted. During discussion on the motion Nahid Sanii-Yahyai stated she did not believe the draft minutes fully reported the reasons some park commissioners supported the stipend increase approved during the January 24 meeting. Martha Kern-Boprie asked Nahid where in the minutes the text was located that Nahid disagreed with, and what was the correction Nahid sought. After extensive discussion, Nahid stated that the first paragraph of New Business B. should be amended, and the amendment should be: After the sentence "Some commissioners volunteer more than others" insert the following text: "Some of the commissioners who were in favor of the raise did not agree that the commissioners attend only one hour meetings and have a short packet to review. Many attend multiple meetings and events." Riley Schofield and Guy Conti stated the amendment was acceptable to them, and could be voted on as part of the main motion to approve the minutes of January 24, 2022. The motion carried.

6. Citizen Participation

No one was in the audience.

7. Reports

A. Chairperson

Vice-Chair Nahid Sani-Yahyai noted that Marion Morris took some time off for recovery. She also reported that she, Paula Jefferson, Martha Kern-Boprie, Juan Bradford and consultant Chris Nordstrom participated in a planning meeting for the Five Year Plan.

B. Administrator

Juan Bradford submitted a written report. In addition to that report, he provided the following updates:

Juan met with Ann Arbor Summer Festival leadership about a Live-Here-Now pop-up concert that will take place in Fireman's Park on June 4

A Five Year Plan Open House will take place in April. Additional planning meetings will occur before that.

Following up on a suggestion from Martha Kern-Boprie, he submitted a grant application to the League of Michigan Bicyclists for a micro-grant for some bicycle equipment such as bike racks in our parks. Award decisions expected in April.

The letter of support for the grant application to the Wilson Foundation for Fireman's Park was submitted. We do not know when the award will be announced.

Trustee Rhonda McGill clarified that the community center advisory committee will only exist for a year or so. Parks gets one voting member on the advisory committee. It could be Juan or a commissioner. Trustee McGill emphasized that the advisory committee seeks first to hear from the community, rather than talk to the community, and for this reason did not want to load the advisory committee with too many government officials. The advisory committee will only contain one representative from the Board of Trustees.

Summer programming – Juan wants to include tennis and pickleball instruction this summer. He has also met with Nick Lacey who directs "Mighty Oaks Soccer" about starting a soccer program in Superior Township parks this summer.

C. Board Liaison

Trustee Rhonda McGill provided an update on the community center advisory committee. She followed up on clarifications in the Administrator's Report. It is very important to the Board of Trustees that the process seek input from the community, and not be overly bureaucratic or government driven. She anticipates there will be several task forces pursuing different elements of the project, and park commissioners will be welcome to serve on these task forces.

D. Board Meeting Attendee

Greg Vessels attended the February 22 Township Board meeting. Supervisor Ken Schwartz discussed potential acquisition of Cheney Elementary School on Stamford for the Community Center. There are many code defects in this structure. The township is also investigating acquisition of other property for this purpose. Concerning the Rock Property, the township is seeking financial assistance. The township hired David Kimble as Fire Marshal for 20 hours per week. Hyundai Corp. seeks to construct a test track on its property. The township is discussing installation of a cross walk at Harris and MacArthur.

E. Park Steward

Juan Bradford has not heard from Ellen Kurath lately. He expects to hear from her after spring arrives. Martha Kern-Boprie asked Juan to convey to Ellen that she is willing to help with removing some invasive plants.

F. Safety

Patrick Pigott reported there have been no accidents or injuries in the past month. He also reported that he is taking a MI-OSHA class in preventing workplace injuries.

8. Communications

A. Educational: 3-Pronged Approach to the Success of Michigan's Parks

B. MLive Article: Inside the Push for a Ypsilanti Area Community Center

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Guy Conti to receive the Communications. The motion carried.

9. Old Business

A. Five – Year Plan Update

An Open House on the Five-Year Plan will take place in April. Planning meetings will take place during the next month.

10. New Business

A. Role of Township Board Liaison

Guy Conti spoke about the resource a board liaison represents; and that it would be prudent for the Park Commission to access the resource that the Township Board Liaison represents and not limit the Liaison to simply reporting.

It was moved by Guy Conti and supported by Martha Kern-Boprie to grant the Township Board Liaison floor privilege of voice but no vote, on Park Commission business. The motion carried.

11. Bills for Payment

It was moved by Martha Kern-Boprie and supported by Greg Vessels to pay the bills totaling \$15,856.16 through 2/28/2022. The motion carried.

12. Financial Statements

A. January 2022 Revenue & Expenditure Report

B. January 2022 Balance Sheet

It was moved by Terry Lee Lansing and supported by Guy Conti to receive the January 2022 financial statements. The motion carried.

13. Pleas and Petitions

Guy Conti recommended Park Commissioners be cautious about sending email votes outside of public meetings.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Nahid Sanii-Yahyai and supported by Greg Vessels to adjourn at 7:25 pm.

Submitted by,
Martha Kern-Boprie, Park Commissioner & Secretary